

JUL 13 2006

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated April 13, 2006. Claims 1 to 18 remain in the application, of which Claims 1 and 12 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 4, 6 to 8 and 10 to 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,473,740 (Cockrill) in view of U.S. Publication No. 2004/0027593 (Wilkins), and Claims 5 and 9 were rejected under § 103(a) over Cockrill in view of Wilkins and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,754,654 (Hiroya). The rejections are respectfully traversed, since they fail to consider each claim as a whole.

The present invention concerns undoing execution of a function on a computer object. According to the invention, a server receives a request from a client station to undo execution of the function on the computer object, where the execution of the function is to manipulate the object from an earlier state of the object to a manipulated state of the object. For example, the object could be an image, and the function could be rotating the image by 90 degrees. When the undo request is received, the earlier state of the manipulated object is obtained on the server. Then, a response is sent to the client station, where the response comprises a sum of money less than or equal to an execution cost associated with the function. Thus, for example, where a user previously paid for a 90-rotation to be performed on an image, the user can request the earlier state (unrotated) of the image be obtained on the server, and the user can recover part or all of the cost associated with performing the 90-rotation function.

Referring specifically to the claims, independent Claim 1 defines a method of undoing a function requested by a first client station on a computer object stored on a server station of a communication network. The method comprises receiving from a client

station a request to undo execution of the function on the computer object, the execution of the function being adapted to manipulate the object from an earlier state of the object to a manipulated state of the object, obtaining on said server station the earlier state of the manipulated object, and sending a response to the first client station via the communication network, the response comprising a sum of money less than or equal to an execution cost associated with the function.

Independent Claim 12 is an apparatus claim that corresponds generally to Claim 1.

The applied references, alone or in any permissible combination, are not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of independent Claims 1 and 12, and in particular, are not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of sending a response to a first client station via a communication network, the response comprising a sum of money less than or equal to an execution cost associated with a function.

In entering the rejection of Claims 1 and 12, the Office Action asserts Cockrill discloses sending of a response “comprising a sum of money less than or equal to an execution cost associated with the function.” (Office Action, page 3). However, the Office Action fails to consider the claimed invention as a whole. More specifically, as explained in the MPEP:

“[W]hen evaluating the scope of a claim, every limitation in the claim must be considered. Office personnel may not dissect a claimed invention into discrete elements and then evaluate the elements in isolation. Instead, the claim as a

whole must be considered.” MPEP § 2106 (emphasis in original); See also MPEP § 2141.02(I).

In this regard, Applicants submit that the Office Action has isolated the claimed feature of sending a response to a first client station via a communication network, the response comprising a sum of money less than or equal to an execution cost associated with a function. Specifically, the Office Action has evaluated this feature without considering that “the execution of the function [is] adapted to manipulate the object from an earlier state of the object to a manipulated state of the object.” (Claims 1 and 12). In this regard, the Office Action’s reliance on Cockrill is misplaced.

Cockrill is directed to the purchase of items. (See, e.g., Figure 8, step 811 (“provide purchased item”). While Cockrill may disclose that a customer can request a refund for a purchased item (column 16, lines 3 to 31), Cockrill is not seen to disclose or to suggest an execution cost associated with a function, much less disclose or suggest sending a response comprising a sum of money less than or equal to an execution cost associated with a function.

Likewise, the remaining reference, namely Wilkins, is not seen to disclose or to suggest an execution cost associated with a function, much less sending a response comprising a sum of money less than or equal to an execution cost associated with a function. Therefore, Applicants submit that the applied references, either alone or in any permissible combination, fail to disclose each and every element of the claims, when the claims are considered as a whole. Accordingly, independent Claims 1 and 12 are believed to be allowable.

Moreover, Applicants submit that there is no motivation to combine Cockrill and Wilkins. Specifically, the modification of Cockrill suggested in the Office Action would render the system of Cockrill unsuitable for its intended purpose. (See MPEP § 2143.01(V)).

The Office Action asserts one skilled in the art would be motivated “to modify Cockrill et al. to receiving a request to undo execution of the function on the computer object, the execution of the function being adapted to manipulate the object from an earlier state to a manipulated state of the object; obtaining the earlier state of the manipulated object”. (Office Action, page 3). Applicants note that since Cockrill is directed to the purchase of items, modifying Cockrill “to undo execution of the function on the computer object, the execution of the function being adapted to manipulate the object from an earlier state to a manipulated state of the object” would add nothing to Cockrill’s refunds for purchased items.

The Office Action also asserts that one skilled in the art would be motivated to modify Cockrill “in order to improve the performance of rendering image data by converting what would normally be considered resolution-dependent image behavior into behavior that is substantially resolution-independent.” Applicants fail to see how Cockrill’s system of purchasing items would benefit from improving performance of rendering image data. Instead, Applicants submit that there is no motivation to combine Cockrill and Wilkins. For this additional reason, independent Claims 1 and 12 are believed to be allowable.

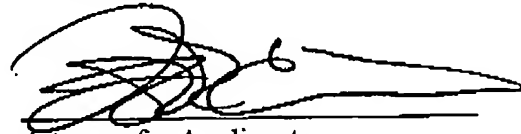
The other claims in the application are each dependent from the independent claims and are believed to be allowable over the applied references for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is deemed to define an additional aspect of the

invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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